The Lions' Pride

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Partners for progress: State of the Union 2013

By Shane Holman
Managing Editor

The 2013 State of the Union address by President Barack Obama was layered with optimism throughout. Proposals and partnerships were announced in the House Chamber for solutions to policy concerns spanning early childhood education to industry innovation. The unusual campaign styled approach to the address sparked significant debate afterward among those in political circles. On a note close to our community, President Obama announced the White House's creation of a national college affordability and transparency center available for free to the public online.

President Obama commented on the significant progress our nation has achieved in such difficult economic times. Such progress mentioned includes the 6.1 million new jobs in 35 months, troops returning home, and a stronger stock market than in the past 5 years.

"We can say with confidence the state of our union is stronger," President Obama announced.

Many public policy matters were discussed in the 2013 State of the Union including: the economy and jobs, education, health care, immigration, defense and foreign trade, as well as gun safety.

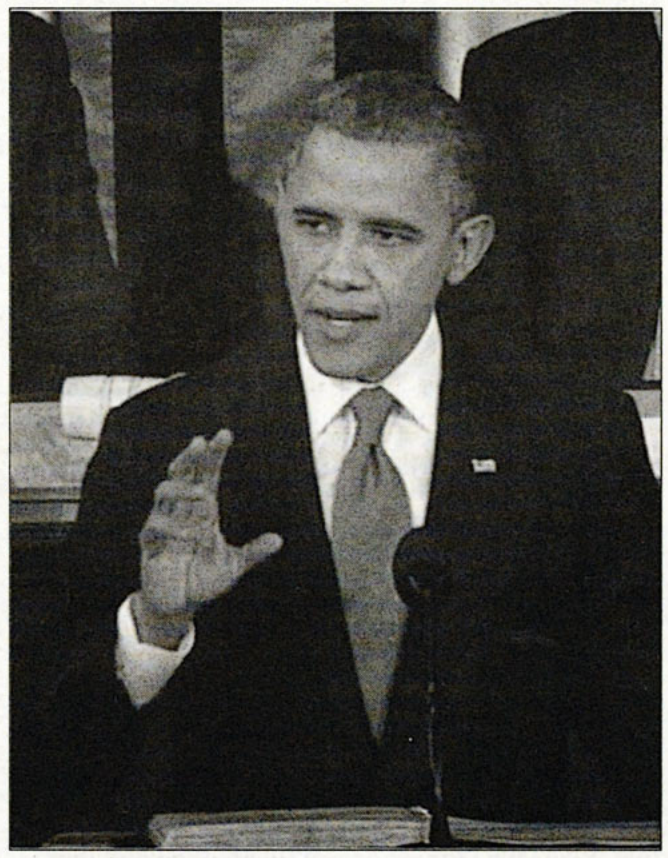
On the economy, President Obama emphasized the importance of infrastructure. The United States needs the right kind of jobs and a workforce that is capable of filling those jobs. Additionally, addressing the housing crisis through extending the refinancing opportunity by a simplified refinancing process to allow homeowners to refinance at the current lower interest rates. President Obama encourages a partnership with the private sector to work together on rebuilding our national infrastructure to provide both jobs, and a stronger national framework of transportation and technology. The President also made a progressive proposal to raise the minimum wage to $9 per hour nationwide.

In the education policy area, President Obama focused a great deal on the importance of expanding the availability of early childhood education opportunities. President Obama urged that it's critical for the success of our young people to start off on the right foot. To put the expense in perspective, for every dollar spent in early childhood education 7 dollars is saved through preventing social problems such as crime and high school dropout rates.

Furthermore on education, President Obama addressed the higher education tuition crisis that impacts young adults and their families nationwide. The day after the State of the Union address, the White House released a college scorecard showing where the best tuition values are in the United States. The scorecard is a part of the College Affordability and Transparency Center now maintained by the US Department of Education, found at: http://collegecost.ed.gov.

In the area of healthcare, President Obama praised the passage of the Affordable Healthcare Act to be implemented next year. Expansion of the opportunity of healthcare coverage to those unable to afford or to attain insurance coverage will soon be available.

Immigration is a policy issue that has been pressing for many years, and as Floridians we reside in a border state that makes it an even more critical issue. President Obama called for a comprehensive immigration bill from Congress, and supports a pathway to citizenship style immigration policy.



On defense and foreign trade President Obama emphasized his commitment to keep Congress aware of defense efforts, and to be more transparent to the American people. The President warns that our challenges don't end with al Qaeda, that we must continue to consider North Korea as well as cyber threats.

The gun safety remarks of President Obama were some of the most emotional of the entire speech. After several tragedies resulting from gun violence, the President declared that these families "deserve a vote" from Congress on gun safety regulations. Noting that a vote merely does not ensure passage of a bill, but implies there is a respect owed to the families of gun violence victims that can be earned through discussing the issue and voting on a potential solution.

President Obama started off his State of the Union address with a quote from former President John F. Kennedy,"51 years ago JFK declared to this chamber that the Constitution makes us not rivals for power, but partners for progress." After listening to both President Obama's State of the Union, and Gov. Jeb Bush's speech at our own Business Conference it is clear that the partisan differences are truly just different means to the same end. Let us hope that our representatives do unite as partners for our progress.

Check out what's inside this issue!

Page 2
S.E.R.V.E
Yoga balls over chairs

Page 3
The Asia Project
Interracial couples

Page 4
Top 5 study tips
Online education
Smoke Sections

Page 5
Facebook Hackers

Page 6
Gianna Russo
Romancing the word

Page 7
Movie Review
Comic

Page 8
Saint Leo vs. Tampa
Swim Team
Correction

Opinion

Have you ever thought about S.E.R.V.E?

By Marlie Gonzales
Contributing Writer

Most students have heard about The SERVE program in Saint Leo University. SERVE is a program that goes on trip to different places to engage in community service activities. Sherman Milton, who is with the program, explains that S.E.R.V.E is a remarkable program.

"SERVE is an alternative spring break program, but we also have trips that take place over the summer and over Christmas break as well," said Milton.

He also explained what the main goal of the program is.

"Basically our goal is to promote service learning and make a positive difference in the world. When we go on these trips our main focus is doing whatever we can to help and make a difference. Each trip has different needs depending on the location and organization."

The trips they do are not limited to the United States. They go to other countries as well.

"We do domestic and international trips. These trips do anything from working with habitat for humanity Building houses, to teaching English in a school. You name it; we have had a trip that has done it. The trips are student led so the trip leader plays a vital role in these trips. Last year we had five trips over spring break: Costa Rica, New Jersey, Gulf Coast, New York, and Florida Keys. Many participants would say that the SERVE trips are a lot of fun and life changing," said Milton

Alexandria Vincent, who will be leading the SERVE Ecuador trip, was also able to exchange information on the program.

"SERVE stands for Student Engaging in Rewarding Volunteer Experience. I attended Costa Rica my freshman year, and it was an absolutely incredible experience. I am so excited to be going to Ecuador this spring break! I think it is a great program that allows students to see different parts of the world, but really engage in interacting with the locals and truly making a difference in the lives of the people we cross. It redefines the norm of what college students do during spring break," said Vincent.

Instead of sitting around during Spring break, go on a SERVE trip and make a difference in people's lives.

Yoga balls make an appearance in the classroom

By Kathleen Demeritte
Contributing Writer

Yoga balls instead of chairs in a class room? In Westchester PA, teacher, Robbi Giuliano, did just that. According to *MSN News*, she claims that it was the best decision she ever made as a teacher after having taught for 11 years.

The new concept of replacing desk chairs with yoga balls is one aspect of an experiment by teachers to use nontraditional teaching material in order to find new ways to help students in the class room, specifically by modernizing the classroom with exercise gear. A study by John Kilbourne, a professor of movement science at Grand Valley State University in Michigan and previously interviewed by *MSN News*, has found a link between physical activity and improved learning.

The yoga balls were used first at the Kinney Center for Autism at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia and have had a positive effect on students with autism and attention deficient disorders. Yoga balls prevent the students from being overly fidgety and have helped to increase their attention span.

Yoga balls keep the students more alert according to the *National Inquirer*. They force the students to focus on keeping their balance and the use of muscle tension helps increase blood flow which permits the students to be more attentive.

The experiment was geared toward elementary age students. Would this also be an improvement for high school or college learning? Yes, considering that the idea came from the business world when Robbi Giuliano got the idea from her husband, whose business had switched to having employees did on yoga balls instead of chairs.

John Kilbourne conducted an experiment at Grand Valley State University involving the use of yoga balls in a college class room. He had one of his college classes sit on yoga balls instead of chairs during the course of the experiment. He found that the students were more productive, took notes and made for attention to class on the yoga balls than they had in the chairs, proving that yoga balls were beneficial to all age groups and grade levels.

Of course for every new idea there are always some people who are going to be skeptical. Some people worry that the use of yoga balls may be too distracting for the children. Giulaino puts this worry to rest claiming that her students know to have their bottoms firmly planted on the ball and their feet on the ground.

How do Saint Leo students feel about this interesting development in the classroom?

Freshman, Bella Bains, said "That would be so much fun!"

But when asked if the yoga balls would improve the learning environment she said "Probably not, I would be bouncing on them the entire time."

Although she did think of a positive reason for having the yoga balls.

"Perhaps bouncing would keep me awake. I fall asleep in class a lot then you can't fall asleep on a yoga ball," she said.

When asked if she would prefer a yoga ball to a chair, freshman, Kenna Dieffenwierth, said "it would be too distracting. I would not pay attention, I would just play."

"I would prefer a yoga ball. I feel like it would be more comfortable than a chair," said Erin Shoczylas.

In regard to these interviews, the overall consensus is that yoga balls would be fun to have in the class room but might prove to be too distracting for some students.

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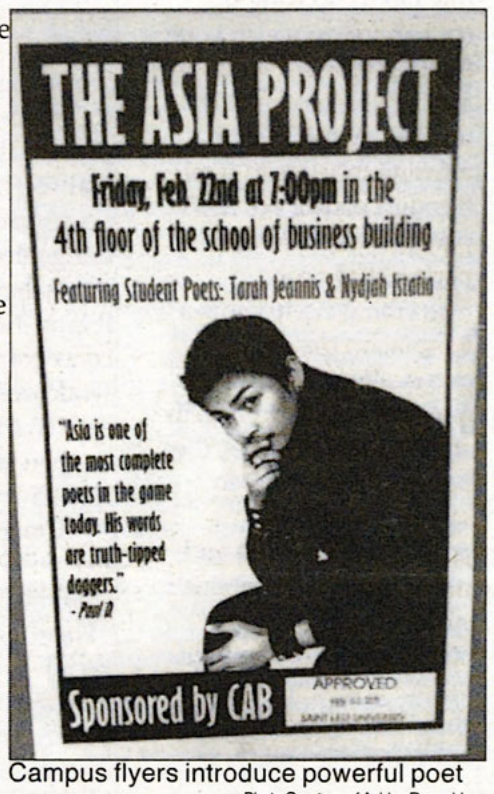
Opinion

Asia's poetry moves student audience

By Ashley Reynolds
Contributing Writer

The Asia Project, which is actually just one poet named Asia, visited the University on Feb 22. He was accompanied by his brother-in-law, Jollan Aurelio, who plays guitar as a backdrop for Asia's poetry.

Hardly anyone moved as Asia performed. His words immediately captivated the audience, forcing them to look at their own lives. Audience members laughed as he talked about the 90's and growing up in a Filipino household. Minutes later, they were moved to silence as he mourned the recent death of his sister.


THE ASIA PROJECT
Friday, Feb. 22nd at 7:00pm in the
4th floor of the school of business building
Featuring Student Poets: Tarah Jeannis & Nydjah Istatia
"Asia is one of the most complete poets in the game today. His words are truth-tipped daggers."
Sponsored by CAB
APPROVED
Campus flyers introduce powerful poet
Photo Courtesy of Ashley Reynolds

Asia has earned a name for himself as an artist. In 2006, he was named Promotion of Campus Activities' Performer of the Year, and has since performed on HBO's "Def Poetry" and BET's "Lyric Café."

One of Asia's most famous works, "The Supersonic Speed of Charmin," compares his life to that of his father.

"My father serves salvation like six o'clock mediation to folks who think of communion as frequent flyer miles we rack up to get to heaven," he said.

It's hard to believe just a few years ago, Asia was ready to give up on poetry. It was at that point he was diagnosed with cancer. After his recovery, he vowed to pursue his love for poetry instead of working a job he hated.

Two student poets, Tarah Jeannis and Nydjah Istatia, opened the show with their own work. Tarah reflected on temptation and her life in Haiti, while Nydjah spoke about her brother who is still struggling to escape a hard life.

Students remained long after the show was over to talk, take pictures, and buy CDs.

Sigma Lambda Gamma hosts event for interacial couples

By Eriqua McGhee
Contributing Writer

On February 19, 2013, Sigma Lambda Gamma had a seminar on the matter of Interracial Couples and Marriages. The event is as a way to celebrate Valentine's Day and Black History month. Sigma Lambda Gamma is a Sorority at Saint Leo University, and it is largely consisted of Hispanic females. They hosted this event to shade some light on interracial relationships and to answer whether "Love is Colour Blind".

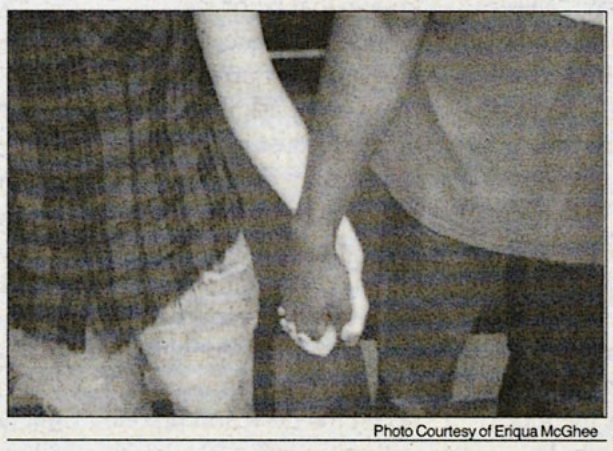


Photo Courtesy of Eriqua McGhee

Based on the finding of Dr. Inniss, the largest ethnic/race groups to date or marry outside their race are Asians. This information, however, does not seem to agree with the marriage numbers in the United States. Out of Black, Asian, Hispanic and Other groups, White individuals are more likely to date and or marry Hispanics. Interracial couples are viewed as a black individual and a white individual, normally. This judges the norm that is shown in the movies and the media, especially a portion of Americans view Hispanics as illegal aliens due to the increased media on the border between Texas and Mexico. In response to the question posed in the analysis, love is only colour blind if the other race's complexion is closer to the others complexion.

One student hypothesized "The reason as to why white people date Hispanics is because of the fact that their skin can pass for a white person's". Many of the students present agreed with the hypothesis, as did Dr. Zacchilli. She spoke on the issue of why an individual would or would not date or marry someone outside his or her race. Many individuals do claim that the children of interracial couples suffer from bullying and identity issues. Furthermore, there is an issue of the status symbol from dating someone outside your race. A biracial student commented "I am Hispanic and White, and the time that my dad has needed service, he sends my mom in to get whatever. But, if they are together no one wants to service them because it is still a taboo".

Dr. Zacchilli went over a few test results done on interracial couples. In conclusion, only 29% of White Americans are against all forms of interracial marriages or couples. A little over one-third, is fine with cohabitation and dating a person outside his or her race. This coincides with the data about marriages in the United States, only 14.6% of all marriages are interracial. Opposition to interracial relationships is still very strong in the United States, especially in the south.

However, studies show that interracial relationships are very normal and are slightly better than single race relationships. The idea behind it may depend on whether or not the couple faced hard opposition from family members and society. In addition, one must understand that everyone has their own idea of what is considered strife and issues while in the relationship.

Smoking zones: good or bad?

By Matthew Beil
Contributing Writer

In the past few years, the United States has become less of a place for smokers. Many states are passing legislation that prohibits the smoking of cigarettes inside, these states are known as indoor clean air states. If one has ever been to the Tampa international airport, they would hear the automated message that smoking is prohibited inside the terminal except in specific areas. Now, these designated smoking areas have been proposed at many universities and implemented most recently at the University Of Tampa.

This of course creates tensions. Non-smokers, particularly ones with a strong sense of smell, are made ill by the smell of tobacco smoke. Still, for others it is a non-issue as long as it is not blown in their face. For smokers it is more about their rights to smoke where they choose. Yet for the most part smokers observe the rule of not smoking in doors and most people don't have a problem with those individuals violating the no smoking within twenty five feet of a building because no one measures out exactly twenty five feet.

It has been brought up in a non-legislative way in the SGU that maybe Saint Leo should have designated smoking zones. This comes as some individuals are opposed to smokers congregating either on walk ways or near them causing the passing by a non-smoker to get a whiff of the tobaccos odor that they find so offensive. There is talk that there may be designated smoking zones on campus in the future. But what do the individual students think about this idea?

Justin Paulauskis, a senior communications major stated: "I think it is (expletive deleted) I don't understand how one can continue to intrude in to certain people's lives and force them into confined spaces. I don't think it is personally fair, that someone else can tell me where I'm allowed to go and what I am allowed to do."

Lola Manly freshmen

more on pg. 4...

Campus News

Top five ways to study for midterms

Wendy Legorete
Contributing Writer

There is no possible way to avoid the inevitable lump that lies in the midst of the semester that every university student must drag him or herself over. Midterms are coming.

If you got that little pitfall feeling in your stomach after reading that, then you are not alone. Perhaps in misery, maybe, but you know what people say: "Misery loves company". And since we are all in good and sufferable company, let us dread this trifle together with a few tips on how to study in the most beneficial way possible:

5. Study in groups (But only if you dislike the people you are with)

That last bit has some truth in it. For the more social student, study groups can be a useful and advantageous way to get work done. The people you are studying with are carrying the same work load and can possibly bring some new information or insight to the table. However, this method can backfire drastically if your study group consists solely of your friends. Friends (though enjoyable to have around) are a distraction. A person can only work to his or her full potential if that person is in full-on work mode. You cannot accomplish what you have set out to do if you are constantly stopping to catch up on what your friends are giggling at on the Internet.

4. Study in solitude

For the student who knows that he or she works best alone, be alone. Hole yourself up in your room and bask in the quiet. It is just like being in a classroom during a test, only you are not worried about the amount of time you have left to finish. There are no headache-inducing florescent lights, and you can put your feet up on the desk and no one will yell at you.

3. Study with music (But something without words)

For the student who loathes complete silence, listen to music while you work. However, make certain that this music has no lyrics. Think about it. There is always a possibility that you will get caught up with singing along to the tune instead of paying attention to what you are supposed to be doing. The advantage of listening to strictly instrumental music is that the songs eventually turn into white noise. White noise serves its purpose in providing just the right amount of atmosphere without having to choose between distracting music and unsettling, un-stimulating silence.

2. Study in comfort (Ladies, I'm talking to you)

The key word in this article has so far been "distraction," so here it is again: Uncomfortable clothes are a distraction. Yes, I love your shoes/necklace/dress/earrings/etcetera, but I am not the one who has to wear it while trying to study for the midterms. Think of what you're wearing now. How many times have you had to shift, pull at, fix, or worry about what you are showing and how much of it with the outfit you have on right now? Now imagine the number of times you have had to do that today, but multiply it by 0. You obviously get 0. And that is what you will have with a good pair of sweats and a T-shirt, leaving your mind free to conquer that short essay question or those terms you need to know for English.

1. Study unplugged

It is pretty much self-explanatory and there is no way around it: the best way to study is to do it without any technologic temptation. It is not just putting your phone on silent and setting it aside. It is also using only one tab (the tab for looking up sources for essays) in your Internet browser while you are on your laptop. It is turning off the T.V. It is refusing the urge to scroll through your iPod, mp3 player, or radio for the perfect study song. Everything electronic is a temptation that will eventually get the best of our willpower and ruin the study session. So, yes, the best way to study is to sacrifice some entertainment value and have some self-discipline to sit down and not only complete the assignments we are given, but to also complete it to the best of our academic ability.

Online Education Program ranked among top in the nation

Tara McLoughlin
Editor and Chief

Saint Leo University's online education program is praised for its superior excellence.

Two 2013 rankings placed the online education system ahead of the pack. According to the Guide to Online Schools, Saint Leo University is rated at number 18 in the nation for the 2013 year, based on the program's quality and reasonable price. The data was configured by The National Center for Education Statistics. The schools were ranked on their recommendation rates, cost of tuition, retention rate, repayment rate, and accreditation.

According to The U.S. News & World Report's "2013 Best Online Education Report," ranked Saint Leo's undergraduate programs within the top four of the 237 programs regionally accredited for-profit, private, and public institutions that allow bachelor's degrees through online degree programs.

When Diane Johnson, Assistant Director Center for Online Education, was asked about how she felt about the ranking, she was not surprised.

"I have been with the University for seven years and it is sensational," she said.

She felt that the online education program was so successful because they focused on the students and student learning. Johnson also accredits the online program's success to Saint Leo's core values. Johnson believes that all of the core values apply to the online community.

She stressed that the most important thing that students should know is that the online courses that the students take are the same as the regular classes. The online courses that they offer also go according to the same master syllabi. Therefore, the only difference is the classroom.

When Johnson was asked about the great debate over online education versus the interactive classroom she felt that there was no argument. Johnson believes that online education is just as effective as the on ground classes.

"I think that learning can occur any place, any time. And there are lots and lots of studies."

The common misconception about online education has been that it is not as effective as interactive classrooms because students do not have access to the teacher or proper instruction. However, Johnson does not agree with this notion.

"In some ways there is more interaction with the teacher. But it depends on how much the student reaches out," she said.

When students were asked about their experiences with the online education program they agreed that it was strong.

Tricia Ganning, an Education major, thought that the online classes were the same

More on pg. 5...

jump from pg. 3

who is still undecided on a major said: "As a smoker I agree with designated smoking zones as long as they are easily reachable"

William Berry a sophomore studying computer science said: "it is interesting; there are courteous smokers and non-courteous smokers. When I smoke I try and keep the smoke away from you because it is my habit and not yours. Then there are those smokers who are rude. With smoking zones you are segregating the student population. I observe the 25 foot rule and you have all this open space. If you have designated smoking zones they will be far off. It is an interesting concept but it doesn't work well."

On the flip side there are non-smokers who also have an opinion:

Craig Graves a freshman who is studying psychology said: "There a good idea, I wish people wouldn't smoke for their own health and pocket books, but designated smoking zones are still a good thing."

Ravin Forde a business management major and a junior said: "Designated smoking zones would be nice. It would be good for us non-smokers because we would not have to inhale poisonous fumes."

Cody Jean-Baptitse a junior who is studying business said: "Basically as a non-smoker designated smoking zones seem good in theory. But it wouldn't go over well with the students. If you have designated smoking zones that are far off some students are not going to go there and will just smoke where they want too. When you get down to it is a matter of who will follow the rules."

As far as the implementation of the smoking zones goes it is only rumors, so the location and punishment for violating the smoking zones are still unknown.

Campus News

Electronic Warfare: the New Front

Matthew Beil
Contributing Writer

In recent weeks there has been a big stir in the media. Hackers have attacked thousands of American corporations, which include Apple, Twitter, Facebook, Coca-Cola, the New York Times and The Washington Post. This has occurred over the past five years. Recently, however, many companies did not disclose this information in fear that their investors may flee or that the company itself may have a lawsuit filed against it. In the last month, though, many companies have come forward and stated that they have been hacked.

To many security experts, this is a good thing. It allows for more transparency and leads to greater protection. In each industry when a giant like Google steps forward, they help to raise attention to the issue, leading to greater security. The problem has gotten the attention of President Barack Obama. The President signed an executive order, and while it is only voluntary, it created a way for dialogue to occur between the federal government and individual companies about the threats these companies face from the web.

Where did these attacks come from? A United States security company, Mandiant, reported that the attacks came mostly from China. These Chinese hackers, as the Mandiant report states, are funded by the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA). Mandiant reported that it found the hackers because of China's ban on sites like Twitter and Facebook. The hackers would use virtual private networks to get around this. Mandiant found that several of the hackers used the VNP servers for attacking corporations to access the hackers own Twitter and Facebook's. The report narrowed down the attacks to a specific building on the outskirts of Shanghai. This building is home to the PLA Unit 61398, which is believed to be the location of a major hacking operation.

Several of China's ministry heads have come out against the Mandiant report. Geng Yansheng, spokesperson for the ministry of National Defense, stated in a press conference on Feb. 20 that: "The claim by the Mandiant Company that the Chinese military engages in internet espionage has no foundation in fact." China too has insisted that it has been the target of cyber attacks.

This issue brings to light the changing face of national security and personal security in the modern age. In an age of digitalization, where almost everything is conducted by computers, there are real threats. These threats go beyond identity fraud and stealing vital secrets. Everyday things such as power grids, water mains, and communication networks are controlled by computers. These things, if hacked into and tampered with, could have serious implications and endanger lives. Countries that rely heavily on digital information are at risk. It would be in the interest of all nations and people to address these threats.

Jump from pg. 4

as those taken on ground. She felt very connected to the professor throughout her online class experience.

"It's an exceptional program that students should consider using," she said.

Dexter Stowe, an Accountant major, said that the program was great.

"Saint Leo is one of the most organized online programs I have come across. Given it is one of the biggest in the nation," he said.

So, those students who are worried about taking online classes should rest easy. Saint Leo's online education program has spoken for itself. The current ranking proves that the program is of great quality.

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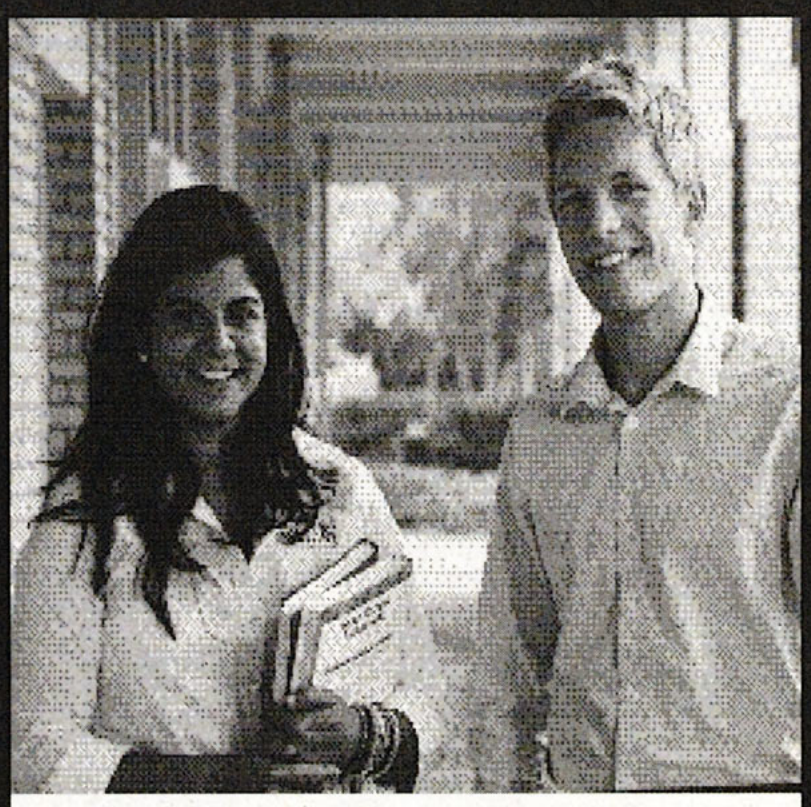

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Arts & Entertainment

Closet Writer to Award Winning Poet

By Annie Hays
Contributing Writer

Professor Gianna Russo is the Editor in Chief of the Sandhill Review. Photo Courtesy of Annie Hays.

From the first time she had a poem published in college to her current position as an English professor, head of Yellow Jacket Press, and Editor in Chief of Sandhill Review, Gianna Russo has been a very active member of the Florida literary community.

Russo, a Tampa native, and her younger twin sisters grew up in an Italian-American family that "loved food, laughter, wine, and Frank Sinatra." Some of her fondest memories as a child were of eating pasta with the whole family for dinner every Sunday.

Besides giving her a love of food and family time, Russo's family gave her a love of writing. She comes from a family of writers and avid readers on her mother's side. Her grandfather was an attorney who wrote detective stories for "pulp magazines" back in the 1940's and 50's, and her uncle was a reporter.

Her parents were also influential. "Every night at dinner they would tell the funniest stories," and this influenced her short stories later on. But most importantly, her mother read to Russo and her sisters every night.

"We had this set of books called 'Child Craft Books'. There were about six to ten volumes based on age level from toddlers to middle school age. The books were collections of children's poetry, and most of it was historical poetry," she said.

In 1977, Russo got her Bachelor's Degree in psychology and women's studies from the University of South Florida. She wanted to be a women's civil rights attorney, but as soon as she was accepted to law school, she change her mind.

"I realized I had made a mistake. I was so filled with dread about going to law school I had to do something else."

However, it was soon clear that she had already found her calling without realizing it. In college, while working at the library, Russo had met "the first real poet" she ever knew. He encouraged her to get published in an USF affiliated literary magazine, and at that point she "came out of the closet" as a writer.

Over the next few years, Russo got involved with all things literature from open mic nights to submitting more work to literary magazines. When it came time to find a substitute for law school, she naturally decided to study writing, literature, and poetry. She got her MFA from USF in 1979.

She taught at USF part time for 15 years, and it was there that she met her husband, Jeff, a fellow English professor who is still at USF. In 1995, she quit at USF. After two years of directing a YMCA literary program, she became one the first people to teach at Blake High School in Tampa where she built the creative writing program there with a colleague. She stayed at Blake for nine years, but she was so burned out she had to quit.

After working as a grant writer at a museum and then a private elementary school, she heard that Saint Leo was looking for a poetry and creative writing teacher. This is her second year at Saint Leo, and she loves it.

When she is not teaching, she runs Yellow Jacket Press. Originally, Yellow Jacket was created for students at Blake to get their poetry published, but now it is open to poets across Florida. She is also the editor in chief of the literary magazine Sandhill Review.

Surprisingly, she does not write much in her free time since she was always helping students with their papers or editing for Yellow Jacket.

But in 2011, after 15 years trying to get her poetry book, Moonflower, published, a small press in Florida finally took it. The book won her the prestigious bronze Florida Book Award for poetry and the silver Florida Publishers Association Award.

"It was very gratifying after all

In her free time, she enjoys working in her organic garden, looking at all forms of art from music to dance, traveling, and cooking for her whole family every Sunday.

"I'm never bored with life," she says.

Romancing the Word in Education

By Jessica Miller
Assistant Layout

An evening performing filled with song, laughter, poetry and desire! The performances of Lovemaking in Literature and the Oldyweds and Tiny Threads piece, Your Cheatin' Heart, tell love in different perspectives. Which do you prefer: true love, desire, or a break-up?

The evening begins with Professor Gianna Russo reading a collection of poems that tell what people think and feel, but rarely ever says. These poems remind people of how complex and simple love can be. In time, people discover that one of the best ways that anyone can express these feelings is through literature.

"We reach for poetry during moments that mark significant events, such as weddings and funerals, or significant emotions, such as love or grief. To connect with how others who have dealt with grief, loss, death or illness through poetry can indeed be healing," said Professor Gianna Russo.

Literature is indeed healing, but that is not the only venue of which to release emotion. Another great way to help the body, spirit, and mind is through music. Brooke and David McGinnis put on an act that people cannot help but smile at.

"We've performed as this duo before, but this particular set was quite different. Where we traditionally perform more 'Americana' than what one might call 'straight country,' the Valentine's Day theme required us to perform new material. We knew that the songs would have to deal with love and such, but we still wanted to have some fun, so we went with the trashier side of the genre so that people could see that such music isn't all buttoned down and moralistic," said Professor Brooke McGinnis.

It is hard not to get into the song and spirit of country with this dynamic duo. Both the poetry readings and music performances display the power and importance of the arts in everyday life. The L.E.D. (Learning, Enlightenment, Discovery) series encourages students to become involve in various art forms in their community. The arts help to develop skills and practices necessary to do better and to succeed further in life. Learning more in-depth about music or playing an instrument makes it easier to learn a foreign language. People who study English and read often do better researching in the science field. The L.E.D. series also encourages students to interact more with their professors, and presents the idea that the professors are so much more on campus than just instructors. Check out the future pretentions in the L.E.D. series and find what the arts can offer you today.

Arts & Entertainment

Oz: The Great and Powerful

Jocelyne Hilary
Contributing Writer

Photo Courtesy of Wikicommons.org

Everyone knows the stories of "Jack and the Bean Stalk" and "The Wizard of Oz" from hearing or reading the tails as a child, but now you can see them in bright lights while you are sitting in a comfy chair, as these two classic fairy tale stories will be coming to theaters in the next few weeks.

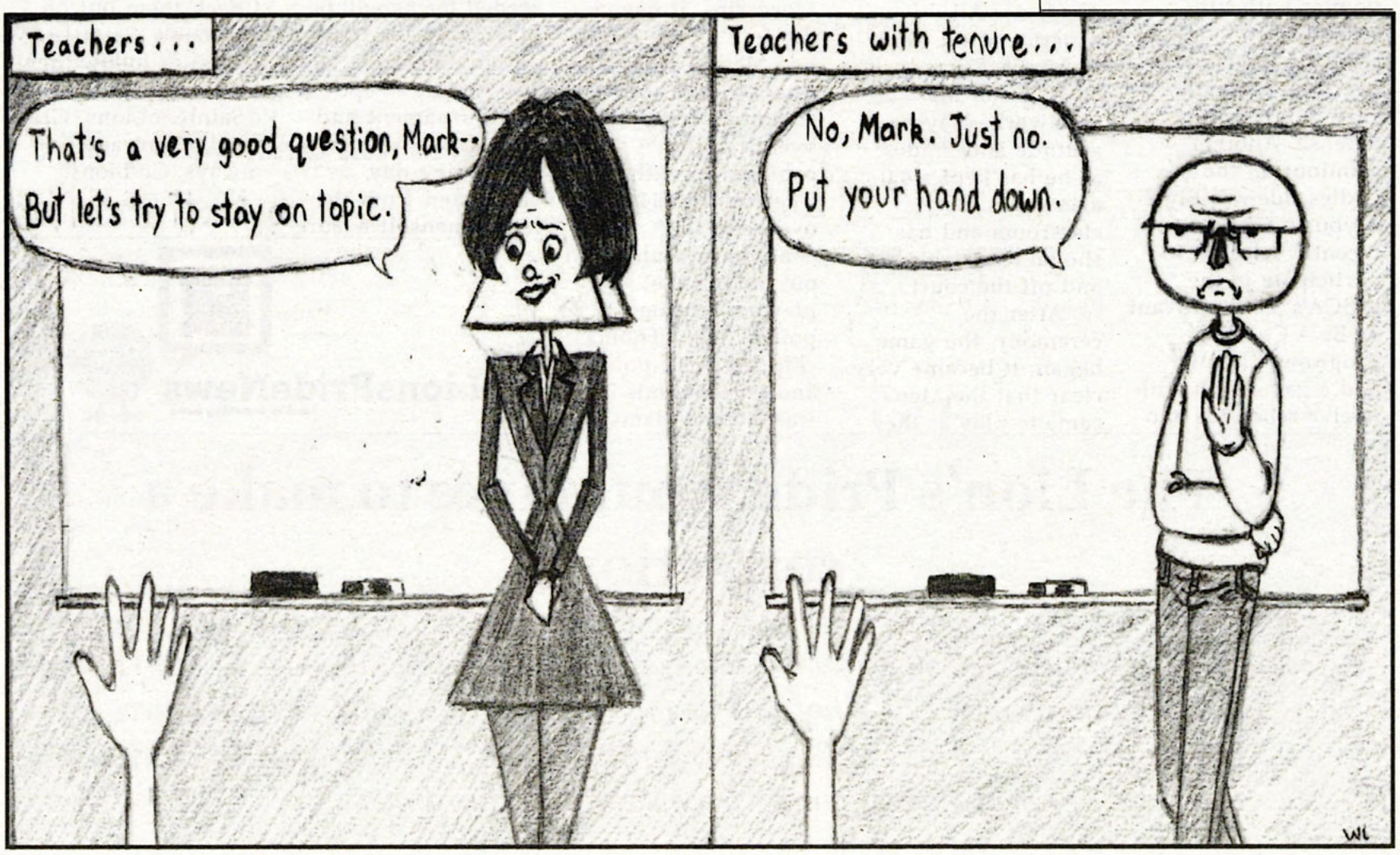
"Oz: The Great and Powerful" is a spin to the well-known book "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" written by Frank Baums and the classic movie "The Wizard of Oz". This will be the latest of the Disney movies to come over to theaters. Knowing Disney, this movie should be colorful and take you to a fantasy land. It stars James Franco as Oscar Diggs, also known as "The Wizard of Oz". Starring next to him is Mila Kunis as Theodora and Michelle Williams as Glinda the good witch.

This movie starts with Oscar being brought to the Land of Oz and facing the tremendous problems that this new world entails. As he discovers this new world, he meets three witches and he must figure out who is a good witch and who is a bad witch. Everything is not always has it appears in this movie, so you will have to see it to find out the end. This movie will envelop you in the beautiful scenes and creations of a new world. This movie will be available in 3-D and will be in theatres on March. 8.

The next fairy tale that will be coming to life is the "Jack the Giant Slayer". This movie is based off of "Jack the Giant Killer" and "Jack and The Beanstalk". This movie was directed by Bryan Singer. It stars British actor Nicholas Hoult as Jack. Nicholas may look familiar because he just stared in Warm Bodies, the zombie comedy that hit the top of its charts. The plot is that Jack has accidentally opened a portal that connects the world of the giants to the human world. The giants have taken the princess, and now it is Jack's job to get her back and bring her safely to their world again. This causes a huge war between the humans and the giants. This movie can be seen March 1, so mark your calendars so you can experience the wonders and amazement of this adventurous new world.

As we get older, these fairy tale stories that we grew up hearing and reading abou, are getting more mature. It is amazing to see these characters from our childhood come to life. As a child, we have very creative imaginations and those images stick with us throughout life. Now we can compare these worlds we have to the ones the directors have created for us.

Staff Cartoonist Wendy Legorete



Sports

Tampa vs. Saint Leo: Showdown on the Hardwood

Mike Gincel
Contributing Writer

The Bowman Center was abuzz this past Wednesday night as the Lions took on archrival Tampa in Sunshine State Conference action. The crowd was huge as more than 800 people attended both games and fans were not disappointed with two very exciting matches. There was plenty of Lion spirit to go around.

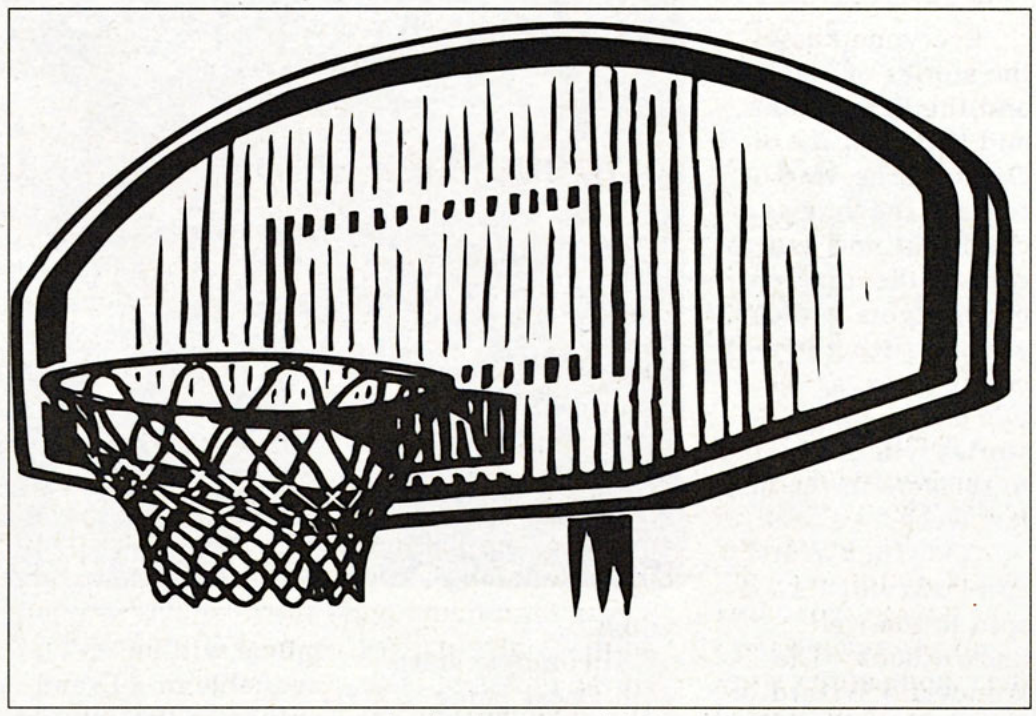
First up were the Lady Lions and it was a close match between both teams. Not only that, but it set up a familiar rivalry between the two head coaches, married couple Tom and Nikki Jessee. It was 2-1 in the series against them, with the Lions ahead. In this game, despite a tough defense and some missed shots, the ladies kept to shooting.

One standout was Teresa Manigrasso who had a game high 24 points. Manigrasso also notched a three-pointer with fifty seconds left, helping send the Lions into overtime against a very tough Tampa defense. Another standout on the Ladies side was Elyse Clyburn, who was recently selected to participate in the WBCA's "So You Want To Be A Coach" program. Clyburn had a game high with twelve rebounds and almost had the winning shot for the Lions as she threw a half-court shot that was just off the mark.

The Ladies gave it their all, but it was an unfortunate overtime period, where neither team scored for a full three minutes. In the end, it was Tampa's day, as the Lady Spartans took home the win, 68-63. The women still have a winning record and a record number of conference wins this season. They are currently 12-12 overall, with a 7-7 conference record. They currently stand in fifth place in the conference, with two games left. As of this writing, they are facing the Rollins this Saturday and the home season finale will be on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 5:30 p.m. against the Eckerd Tritons.

The Men kicked off their game by honoring one of their own. Senior Marcus Ruh was named earlier this week the Capital One Academic All-America of the Year. Ruh was selected based off of his teamwork, playing attitude and grades, as he has kept a 4.0 average in the classroom and has shown leadership on and off the court.

After the ceremony, the game began. It became very clear that the Men came to play as they gained a double digit lead within eight minutes of the game. The Lions led throughout the entire contest, going into halftime with a 41-23 lead over the Spartans. During the second half, the lead would not be given up, resulting in many Lions getting playing time and most players coming off the bench. It was a 62-49 win against the Spartans. Not only that, but with a 77-70 loss that Eckerd handed to the Florida Southern Moccasins, it paved the way for the Saint Leo Men to enter the final week of the season in first place overall in the conference, with a 18-5 record and 11-3 overall in the conference. Ruh stood out among the players, scoring 21 points. Trent Thomas chipped in 12 points and on rebounds it was Shaun Adams who had a game high with 14. The men take on Rollins on Saturday and the home season finale with Eckerd on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m.



Both teams are going to be headed to Kissimmee on March as part of a new SSC tradition. For the first time, the annual SSC tournament among the nine SSC teams will be held at a neutral site and all nine teams will play at the tournament. The #8 seeded and #9 seeded teams will be playing on the first day to determine who will get the #8 spot in the tournament and who will be sent home on the first day, eliminated from the tournament. It is sure to be a great tournament and both teams have had a great season, so look for strong runs from both teams as they go for the gold and win the tournament. The tournament runs from March 6-10 and tickets are on sale now. For more information, contact the Athletics office on ticket prices.

For all of the action regarding Lion's Basketball or any of the Saint Leo sports, be sure to go to **www.saintleolions.com.** Check them out on Facebook (Saint Leo Lions) or follow them on Twitter @SaintLeoLions. Great work teams and as always, Go Lions!

The Lion's Pride would like to make a correction...

"According to the NCAA, college sports teams can only practice 20 hours a week. In the Article "The swim team is I-C-Y hot, it was mistated that the swim team practices for "over 20 hours per week". This is false. The Saint Leo swim team has done an exceptional job at staying under the maximum hour limit."